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TSIP 12

The Under Secretary

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To: Mr. Robert V. Prochazek

Subject: Department's Attitude on Expansion of International Broadcasting Facilities

Problem:

The receipt of the USIA's proposed 1958 budget submission has raised questions concerning certain target areas of international broadcasting. Specifically, (a) the nature of US sponsorship and (b) the provision of adequate facilities to serve these areas.

1. Medium Wave

This item has a basic question regarding the "desirability" of expanding the international broadcasting facilities under US sponsorship pending and under study as a result of WED and OCB recommendations. A section of the USIA's 1958 budget submission entitled "Acquisition and Construction of Radio Facilities", recently released for "Government comment", raises the question both generally in terms of the USIA program objectives and specifically in terms of a proposed installation in Greece. This document provides only for the installation of one 500 KW medium wave transmitter to be located in the Greek area, presumably on the Island of Rhodes. The purpose of this installation is to increase day and night medium wave coverage in the Balkan and Middle East and North African area and to replace the U.S. station. The interested areas of the Department do not believe that the construction of the facility mentioned is sufficient in strength or in versatility to cover present and anticipated target areas or cope with the changing political scene.

2. Short Wave

The proposed medium wave installation in the Greek area will vastly increase the FM receiver and population coverage over that now being provided by the U.S. station. The present coverage of the Greek area is limited due to low power and non-directionality of the antenna.

The 90A medium wave transmitter broadcasting to the Indians from Oklahoma with 50 KW is of questionable effectiveness. As shown in the following tabulation, the proposed installation while greatly improving the situation does not provide for the optimum coverage. The use of presently available purchased equipment (1 MW) would afford (See Table A and C.) As long as the present political climate exists, the BIA will be ill advised to save less than the minimum power feasible - 1 megawatt.

	<u>Area</u>	<u>Number of Inhabitants</u>	<u>Number of Inhabitants</u>
Courier area	512,000	5,100,000	1,102,000
Land-based 200 Kilowatt MW Station	1,105,000	23,400,000	3,051,000
Land-based 100 Kilowatt MW Station	1,700,000	33,000,000	3,400,000

Some of recently started artificial stations, a repeat
of which may be in addition to extending the present land and Airfield
stations, would provide a high degree of protection in the Balkans
which is inadequately serviced by medium wave and by the U.S. service
and the countries which have no V.O. medium wave service at this
time (Table A and C).

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In addition, Chart B, the cost of all VHF short wave broad-
cast transmitters, extended to the 5-1/2 MV/m contour (the minimum
acceptable in face of jamming) does not have such losses. The
installation of 2 - 500 KW short wave transmitters at Tangier presently
under construction would extend this contour; however, as clearly
pointed out in Chart B, a vast and significant political and industrial
area of the Soviet Union and Central Asia is not now covered with such
a consideration to be an unacceptable service. Additionally, the present
location of VHF installations does not afford the opportunity to take
advantage of the daylight transmission period when skywave jamming
activities by Soviets is ineffective. Therefore, in addition to
the medium wave transmitter discussed above, installation of short wave
transmitters which is not contemplated in PGM's budget, would also be
necessary to achieve the desired results.

L. 6. In the past three years both of the European or American sponsored broadcasters have significantly improved their capability while on the other hand the Soviet Journalistic capability has increased. It appears that leading to a possible direction of cessation of existing EBU contributions now or in the next year or so, it would be

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preferable to have installations of the suggested nature under construction in order that the United States could talk from a position of expanding strength. Your attention is invited to the fact that the installation of medium and short wave transmitters of the size in question requires from 24 - 36 months.

5. Your attention is invited to the fact that of the three remaining surplus one megawatt short wave transmitters, one has been earmarked for RFI's use at Lisbon and one for Radio Liberation's use at Barcelona.

The following recommendations, if implemented, would provide diversified facilities not necessarily built to service one target, but available for a multiplicity of uses in any political emergency in Europe, half of Asia and all of Africa where problems of greater magnitude may be anticipated.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Department's policy toward expansion of these facilities, for purposes of guidance to other agencies, be defined as follows:

- A. The Department believes every effort should be made to reach audiences in these particularly important target areas:
 1. Soviet Central Asia,
 2. Near East audiences subject to Radio Cairo, and
 3. Central and South Africa.
- B. The Department should encourage the USIA and, as appropriate, other radio broadcasting organizations to build adequate facilities to reach these target areas. Accordingly, it appears highly desirable that USIA construct both medium and short wave power line installations in the Greek area with directional antenna which would be oriented at the Balkans, the geographical center of the USSR, Caucasus, the Middle East and Africa.
- C. The Department should encourage the USIA to turn over to the Greeks the JKA 50 KW Salamina station upon completion of the 1 MW medium wave project. This would be an unnecessary facility if the proposed medium wave transmitter were constructed and could prove to be useful bargaining material with the Greeks.

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